

Message

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Environment -
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AM
To: Duffy, Rick
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Subject: First Move: Refining
Trump's Ethanol
Decision • EPA's
Pollution Groupings •
Roundup Court
Hearing

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Refining Trump's Ethanol Decision • EPA's Pollution Groupings • Roundup Court Hearing



By [Chuck McCutcheon](#)

Oil refiners aren't happy with President Trump's decision to lift summertime fueling restrictions on gasoline containing up to 15 percent ethanol.

The refiners worry the [change](#) will hurt consumers who drive older cars because they say the fuel risks causing engine damage. But another concern also looms.

So-called "E15" fuel previously was blocked from June 1 to Sept. 15 in areas where smog is a problem in hot weather. Only a small percentage of U.S. stations offered it.

Now that E15 can be sold year-round, and with corn-based ethanol priced at a 76-cent discount to gasoline, stations have more of an incentive to sell it. That could potentially establish E15 as a dominant fuel over time.

A 50-percent rise in ethanol use over time could eliminate as much as a half a million barrels of gasoline a day from the U.S. market. Refiners would have to run at a lower rate or push to export more gasoline abroad.

Bloomberg News' [Robert Tuttle](#), Samuel Robinson and [Mario Parker](#) have more details in a story now out.

POLLUTION-INCREASING PLAN? Environmental groups say a new EPA plan could cause more air pollution. Industry groups don't disagree.

But the agency is moving ahead with a proposal to end the practice of grouping large, widespread sources of air pollution such as oil and gas fields together as a single facility for permitting purposes. It would mean treating more small sources of emissions separately.

"The EPA is opening the door to essentially more gamesmanship that will produce more pollution," says Sierra Club managing attorney Sanjay Narayan.

The Sierra Club has received funding from Bloomberg Philanthropies, the charitable organization founded by Michael Bloomberg. Bloomberg Environment is operated by entities controlled by Michael Bloomberg.

[Amena H. Saiyid](#) explores the issue in a [story](#) now out.

ROUNDUP HEARING: Attorneys for Bayer AG will argue in California Superior Court for a reversal of a [\\$289 million verdict](#) in a lawsuit that claimed Monsanto Co.'s Roundup caused a groundskeeper's cancer.

Monsanto Co., which Bayer acquired in June, faces claims by 8,700 people in the U.S. that glyphosate, the main ingredient in Roundup, causes non-Hodgkins lymphoma.

Bayer also proposed that the San Francisco judge who presided over the trial modify the August verdict. Bloomberg News is covering.

OTHER STORIES WE'RE COVERING

- Industrial product makers are closely watching a Supreme Court case set for argument today. The lawsuit asks whether a federal appeals court correctly held that a former U.S. Navy seaman could sue a ship's engine pumpmaker and others for injuries from asbestos-containing parts used in their products but not made by them. Bloomberg Law is watching.
- EPA holds its first of three webinars on the final TSCA fee rule that Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler signed last month. The rule set fees chemical makers and some processors will have to pay to help the agency recoup some costs for administering the Toxic Substances Control Act rule. Pat Rizzuto is covering.
- A major piece of water resources legislation is on the verge of heading to President Trump's desk after it easily cleared a procedural hurdle in the Senate last night. Lawmakers there invoked cloture on the biennial water resources bill, and a vote on the underlying bill will take place later today. David Schultz is following.
- The Senate also could vote as early as today on the nomination of Jeffrey Clark to head the Justice Department's environmental division, David Schultz is watching.
- The resignation of President Trump's top representative to the United Nations, Nikki Haley, set off speculation about who will succeed her. Most-often mentioned as a successor: former Deputy National Security Adviser Dina Habib Powell, who departed in February after barely a year with the administration for a position with Goldman Sachs. Dean Scott is monitoring.

QUOTE OF THE DAY



The coal-fired Frimmersdorf power station near Grevenbroich, Germany, in November 2009.
 Photographer: Wolfgang von Brauchitsch/Bloomberg via Getty Images

“All we need to do is stop producing things that have tailpipes or smokestacks and start taking out of service the things that we have already built with tailpipes and smokestacks.”

—Carnegie Institution for Science climate scientist Ken Caldeira, reacting to the

new U.N. report warning of an “unprecedented” effort needed to limit global warming to avoid the worst effects.

AROUND THE WEB

- An Alaska national park [is asking people](#) to vote—on which of its bears has gotten the fattest.
- The federal government [is still trying](#) to stop a lawsuit filed by a group of youths over climate change that’s scheduled for trial in Oregon soon.
- Until Gulf Coast export bottlenecks are resolved, Permian Basin producers [will face](#) severe price discounts that could constrain incremental increases in oil production, a Columbia University energy researcher warns.

TODAY’S EVENTS

- **All Day • Climate** • [Behavior, Energy and Climate Change Conference](#) features panels with academic, government, and industry representatives.
- **All Day • Clean Energy** • Massachusetts Clean Energy Center [sponsors](#) conference in Boston on clean energy.
- **All Day • Clean Energy** • Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago [hosts discussion](#) in Washington on lessons gleaned from clean energy research and practical experiences.
- **10 a.m. • Wildlife** • Senate environment committee [examines](#) successful state conservation, recovery, and management of wildlife.
- **11:30 a.m. • Nuclear/Space** • Space Foundation with support from Energy Department [holds luncheon](#) on how nuclear energy powers deep-space missions.
- **11:30 a.m. • Chesapeake Bay** • University of Maryland’s Do Good Accelerator [holds luncheon](#) in College Park, Md., with Chesapeake Bay Foundation officials.
- **1 p.m. • TSCA** • Keller & Heckman LLP [holds webinar](#) on changes to the Toxic Substances Control Act.

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